

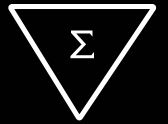


QUEER ARTS FESTIVAL

PRESS RELEASE

# HAUNTINGS

Jun 18 – Jul 8 2022



SUM GALLERY

[queerartsfestival.com](http://queerartsfestival.com)

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## 2022 Queer Arts Festival (QAF): Hauntings kicks off Jun 18, 2022 with curated visual art show *Vanishing Act!*

### For Immediate Release

Vancouver BC, Jun 9, 2022 | Queer Arts Festival returns Jun 18 with visiting international artists for the *first time* since pre-pandemic, welcoming New Delhi-based curator, Adwait Singh in their visual art exhibition, *Vanishing Act*, under creative direction of QAF founding artistic director emeritus, SD Holman. Attend the festival's opening night gala, **ArtParty!** at Sun Wah Centre (268 Keefer Street) to get a first look at *Vanishing Act*, featuring nearly 20 artists spanning South Asia and its diaspora.

*"Through a survey of queer artistic practices from South Asia and beyond, the exhibition will bring forth apocalyptic-revelations about radical forms of hospitality, sociality and empathy that are fed by the consciousness of a catastrophic co-becoming."* - Curator Adwait Singh

This year's Curated Visual Art Exhibition brings the audiences face to face with their own Frankensteins. In a world where the only hope for the future is a ghostly one, *Vanishing Act* serves as a hauntological beacon amidst imminent desolation. Featured artists include: Andrew McPhail, Aryakrishnan Ramakrishnan, Areez Katki, Bassem Saad, Charan Singh & Sunil Gupta, Elektra KB, Fazal Rizvi, Hank Yan Agassi, Hiba Ali, Imaad Majeed, Omer Wasim, Renate Lorenz & Pauline Boudry, Renuka Rajiv, Shahana Rajani, Sharlene Bamboat,, Syma Tariq & Sita Balani, Syrus Marcus Ware and Vishal Juggedo.

*Vanishing Act* is open to the public Wed – Sat, 12 to 6 pm, for the duration of the festival. *Vanishing Act* is presented in partnership with Centre A: International Centre for Contemporary Asian Art, On Main Gallery, and Griffin Art Projects. *Vanishing Act* opens on the third floor space at Sun Wah Centre and inside On Main Gallery and QAF's SUM gallery on the fourth floor. Then, on Jul 2, join curators and visiting artists as *Vanishing Act* multiplies and expands into Centre A (Unit 205, 268 Keefer Street) to complete this multi-floor exhibition. [Tickets are now available](#) for the curator tour and reception at Centre A on Jul 2.

Our exhibition opening and **ArtParty!** sets off three weeks of world-class, Queer visual art, performance, music, literary and film events, presented at Sun Wah Centre, James Black Gallery and Roundhouse Community Arts & Recreation Centre Jun 18 to Jul 8. Single event tickets and \$69 festival passes are available at [queerartsfestival.com](http://queerartsfestival.com).

- **ArtParty! | Sat Jun 18 | 7 pm | Curated Visual Art Exhibition Opening Reception and start of the Festival | Sun Wah Centre Rooftop**

What better way to kick off QAF 2022 than from the rooftop of our Chinatown digs! Stunning views, phenomenal performances, delicious food and drink, and three floors of art to explore in Sun Wah Centre.

- ***Vanishing Act*: Curated Visual Art Exhibition | Sat Jun 18 - Fri Jul 8 | Visual Art | Sun Wah Centre**

Curated by Adwait Singh and directed by SD Holman, QAF's signature curated visual art exhibition is what the festival is anchored upon and explores our Hauntings festival theme.

- ***Vanishing Act*: Curator Tour + Reception | Sat Jul 2 | 3 pm + 5pm | Visual Art Tour + Reception | Centre A**

An exploration of *Vanishing Act* led by founding artistic director emeritus SD Holman, guest curator Adwait Singh, and visiting guest artists. Join us as our visual art exhibition *Vanishing Act* multiplies from SUM gallery and On Main Gallery, expanding into Centre A: Vancouver International Centre For Contemporary Asian Art. A reception to celebrate the fully realized exhibition follows the curator tour.

• **Glitter is Forever** | Fri Jul 8 | 7 pm | **Closing Party** | **Sun Wah Centre Rooftop**

Our 15th Queer Arts Festival closes as it opened: with the breathtaking views from the rooftop of the Sun Wah Centre. Catch the curated visual art show one final time and join us for revelry, special guest DJs, and all the bubbles you can handle. \*not included in the QAF festival pass. Tickets must be purchased through [coastaljazz.ca](http://coastaljazz.ca).

For the full festival schedule and more information visit [queerartsfestival.com](http://queerartsfestival.com)

About [Adwait Singh](#) (curator, *Vanishing Act*)

Adwait Singh (b. 1992) is an independent New Delhi-based curator and theorist engaging affective historiography, queer epistemology, and ethno-cosmologies with the view to qualify predominant understandings and modes of relating to the world. There is an integrative practice that seeks to promote collective care, commensality, and dialogue within the arts ecology. Parallel to the Queer Arts Festival, they have been working on the 5th Mardin Biennial that seeks to revise mainstream perceptions on migration, proposing an economy of renouncement. Other significant projects include 'Mutarerium' which questioned the terminology of the Anthropocene by examining a trifecta of more-than-human evolutionary timelines at the Mumbai Art Room (Mumbai, 2019) and 'Caressing History' that explored the possibility of a para-textual, embodied historiography at Prameya Art Foundation (New Delhi, 2018). Their writings have appeared in various publications and periodicals.

About [SD Holman](#) (creative director, *Vanishing Act*)

SD Holman (born 1963, Hollywood, California) is an award-winning artist and curator whose work has toured internationally. An ECUAD graduate in 1990, Holman was picked up by the Vancouver Association for Non-commercial Culture (the NON) right out of art school. Holman was appointed Artistic Director of Pride in Art in 2008 and spearheaded the founding of the Queer Arts Festival and SUM gallery, Canada's only queer-mandated transdisciplinary gallery. Holman has programmed artists notably including Kent Monkman, Cris Derksen, Jeremy Dutcher, Paul Wong, Angela Grossmann and Dana Claxton. A few Curatorial highlights include *TRIGGER*, the 25th anniversary exhibition for Kiss & Tell notorious *Drawing the Line* project, Adrian Stimson's solo show *Naked Napi*, and Paul Wong's monumental multi-curator *Through the Trapdoor* underground storage locker exhibition as well as many of the years of the curated visual art exhibitions at QAF. Some of SD Holman's other experience running art spaces included founding and running Studio Q the notorious Art Salon in Vancouver's DTES Chinatown as noted in *Secrets of the City* 1<sup>st</sup> edition.

A laureate of the YWCA Women of Distinction Award, one of Canada's most prestigious awards, Holman is known for engagement with themes of sex, death and identity. Holman's work has exhibited at Wellesley College, the Advocate Gallery (Los Angeles), the Soady-Campbell Gallery (New York), the San Francisco Public Library, On Main Gallery, The Helen Pitt International Gallery, Charles H. Scott, Exposure, Gallery Gachet, the Roundhouse, Vancouver East Cultural Centre, Artropolis, and Fotobase Galleries (Vancouver). Holman's portrait project *BUTCH: Not like the other girls* toured North America and is in its second print edition, published by Caitlin Press, Dagger Editions.

### About the Queer Arts Festival [queerartsfestival.com](http://queerartsfestival.com)

The Queer Arts Festival is an annual, artist-run, professional, transdisciplinary arts festival. Recognized among the top 2 festivals of its kind worldwide, QAF produces, presents and exhibits challenging, thought-provoking work that pushes boundaries and initiates dialogue. Each year, the festival theme ties together a curated visual art exhibition, performing art series, workshops, artist talks, panels, and media art screenings. QAF has garnered wide acclaim as "concise, brilliant and moving" (Georgia Straight), "easily one of the best exhibitions of the year in Vancouver" (Vancouver Sun), and "on the forefront of aesthetic and cultural dialogue today" (Xtra).

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For media & interview requests, please contact: Tanya Commisso,  
Director of Communications | [tanya@queerartsfestival.com](mailto:tanya@queerartsfestival.com) | 604-992-8619